Volume 16, No. 5 September 2005 F R E E

WORKS IN PROGRESS

Established in 1990, by the Thurston County Rainbow Coalition.

The Olympia [Not So] Nuclear-Free Zone

by Carrie Lybecker

On August 23rd, the Olympia City Council passed "An ordinance declaring the City of Olympia, Washington a nuclear-free zone." This was the culmination of intensive efforts by local citizens, councilmembers and city staff over many months. Immediately prior to the final vote, the ordinance was significantly amended behind closed doors, based on information withheld from the public. While the final ordinance provides mechanisms through which the city may limit its contribution to nuclear proliferation via contracts and investments, it does not create a nuclear-free zone in Olympia.

What began as an 'outrageous' suggestion by Larry Mosqueda, that Olympia declare itself a nuclear-free zone, was about to become a reality through the work of many people and groups since May 2004. Concerned citizens wrote articles, letters, speeches and newsletters; organized a petition drive; produced, promoted and filmed forums; secured endorsements from many organizations; spent countless hours in meetings, speaking at city council hearings, and participating in community forums. Councilman TJ Johnson traveled to New York; connected with international advocates of non-proliferation; researched extensively; wrote reports, speeches, a resolution and the original draft ordinance, which he then steered through the city council process… despite being personally threatened and publicly vilified during the USS *Olympia* situation last year. City staff worked diligently to improve and clarify the ordinance, and debate on the council actually strengthened what was to have been its final form.

> As Doug Mah pointed out, this ordinance exempts the only entity likely to transport nuclear materials through Olympia.

The expressed purpose of the ordinance (Section 2) was "to establish the City of Olympia, Washington as a nuclear-free zone in that the development, production, transportation, storage, processing, disposal and/or use of nuclear weapons is prohibited within the city limits," and to direct city resources away from supporting these activities by prohibiting contracts with or investments in businesses and entities engaged in them, whenever feasible. The ordinance therefore contained three key elements, the creation of a physical nuclear-free zone (NFZ), and limitations on city contracting and investing. City staff noted that the ordinance was aligned with City Council Goal #2, "Put sustainability into action so that we do our part to make our community more livable." Clearly, from the beginning the ordinance's most compelling feature was that it prohibited nuclear weapons and their components within our city limits.

TJ Johnson submitted the proposed ordinance to the city council in June of 2005.

It was referred to the General Government Committee which offered revisions and recommendations on June 27 and July 25.

A public hearing was held on August 09. Forty residents testified, all in favor of the ordinance. City councilmembers debated, suggested revisions, and ultimately voted to move the ordinance along to the consent calendar the following week.

On August 16, the council again debated and offered still more revisions. TJ noted that in all, the council had received 118 public comments. Of those, 111 (95%) favored the ordinance, 7 objected, and half of those live outside Thurston County. In addition, the ordinance received support from the Olympia Friends Meeting, 150 signers of a petition sponsored by the Olympia Movement for Justice & Peace, nine organizational endorsements (including Washington Physicians for Social Responsibility, whose parent organization was awarded the 1985 Nobel peace prize), and the endorsement of one neighborhood association.

Throughout this lengthy process of debate and revision, some councilmembers, notably Mayor Foutch and Councilman Doug Mah, repeatedly raised the following issues or objections:

▸ **Nuclear-Free** *continued on page 11*

Twenty-Five Years of Advocacy as Poverty on the Rise

Bread & Roses Asks Olympia to "Work-a-Day"

by Melissa Roberts

For twenty-five years, Bread & Roses, a small group of volunteers grounded in the Catholic Worker movement, has provided services to poor and homeless individuals and families in Olympia. Beginning with a shelter for women and children, the group has also provided such services as a soup kitchen, men's shelter, and the Bread & Roses Advocacy Center. This Labor Day season, Thurston County residents can join the second quarter-century of community service by contributing via "Work-a-Day for Bread & Roses" held September 12th. This day, Olympia residents work their regular jobs, but make a financial contribution of a day's wages—or any amount they can afford—to Bread & Roses.

Number of U.S. Poor Rises Again in Period of Unshared Prosperity

On August 30th, The U.S. Census Bureau released its annual report about poverty, income, and health insurance coverage. Analysts were startled to see poverty rise by 1.1 million people from 2003 to 2004, despite some indicators of economic growth during that period. The number of people without health insurance also rose, from 45 million in 2003 to 45.8 million in 2004. Poverty and lack of health insurance have been growing worse since 2000.

The report is particularly timely because Congress is scheduled to take up proposals to cut basic programs that could take billions of dollars from Medicaid and Food Stamps. Congressional committees have been directed to cut $13 billion over 5 years in programs that include Medicaid and agricultural programs. But Congress can reject reductions that deny benefits to needy people or that make poor people pay more for necessary services. These statistics show that poverty remains a growing blight on our national conscience.

August 30, 2005 Annual Census Bureau Report stated U.S. poverty rose by 1.1 million people from 2003 to 2004, despite indicators of economic growth

Local Homeless Rates Demonstrate Positive Impact of Bread & Roses

In Thurston County there was a decrease of 43 people experiencing homelessness between 2004 and 2005. In that period, Bread & Roses helped find permanent housing for 32 individuals. As a part of its continuing efforts to improve services and more effectively eliminate the isolation of poverty, Bread & Roses has increased the breadth and depth of the programs offered.

Staffing Energy

Enthusiasm in the organization is growing, according to Bread & Roses' Administrator, Selena Kilmoyer. "In this twenty-fifth anniversary year, Bread & Roses is infused with new dynamic energy," states Kilmoyer. "Its housing program for chronically homeless single adult males and females is cocooned within a strong advocacy program, a new literacy program, a monthly street newspaper, and a street library—programs which reach into the heart of the greater community."

Nanci LaMusga, founding Bread & Roses staff volunteer and current United Community AIDS Network staff mem-

▸ **Bread & Roses** *continued pg 8*

WORKS IN PROGRESS

Works In Progress is a free, volunteer operated progressive community newspaper based in Olympia, WA. Opinions expressed do not necessarily reflect those of the ***Works In Progress*** and are solely those of the authors.

Submissions:

Please send text as Word attachments. Artwork and photos can be sent electronically or we can scan them for you as camera-ready/black & white.

WIP reserves the right to publish in whole or part all submissions. For editing purposes, please enclose your phone number.

Articles may be reprinted. Please cite source.

*If you don't see your issue being covered in **Works In Progress**, it's because you aren't writing about it! (Or aren't finding someone else to cover it!)*

Send submissions to wip@zhonka.net or mail to ***Works In Progress***, PO Box 295, Olympia, WA 98507-0295.

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We will collectively endeavor to be sensitive and respectful to all those oppressed in this society, and their issues. However, if and when we should make a mistake in this regard, we expect to acknowledge it and to express regret for injury or insult given.

Back Issues:

Get your catalog of indexed ***WIP***s below. Some back issues are available in the Timberland Library system. ***WIP*** is being archived on microfilm by the UW Library.

About the cover—*Despite the mayor's hospitality, it turns out the USS* Olympia *will be docked for two years of maintenance and upgrades, unavailable for a visit during that time.*
Cover design by Pat Tassoni

WIP Schedule

Submission Deadline:
September 23rd

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Announcements

Welfare Rights Organizing Coalition

WROC Night Out

Monday, September 5th • 5:30 – 7:30 pm
First United Methodist Church, 1224 Legion Way SE

Join us for a Labor Day celebration! We'll enjoy a potluck meal, socializing, and watching Morgan (Supersize Me) Spurlock's ***Thirty Days***, a close and personal look at minimum wage.

Children always welcome, we have on-site childcare.
Contact **WROC** at 701 Franklin Street SE, Olympia WA 98501
360-**352-9716** or toll free at 866-343-9716
wrocoly@wroc.org • **www.wroc.org**

Remember September 11, 2001 and Demand the Truth!

Sunday, September 11 • Noon till sunset
1333 Overhulse Rd.
Follow Mud Bay Rd. and turn right at the fire station. Just follow the signs.

C'mon out Sunday, September 11, and learn more of the hidden facts about 9-11 that mainstream media won't talk about. See why flight 77 couldn't have hit the Pentagon. How did the massive building number #7 collapse 5:20PM without being hit by aircraft? What automatically happens within one minute of an airliner's transponder being turned off? Can a hydrocarbon based fire (jet fuel) really bring down steel framed buildings and much more!!!

Bring an inquisitive mind and some pocket money 'cause **Don and David's Organic Pizza Wagon** will be selling organic pizzas to order or by the slice. Soup and salad as well as homemade sodas and brews. There will be videos throughout the day as well as discussion groups, brainstorming sessions, open mike, and tables of literature.

Oh yeah, lots of parking and **bring your own cups and bowls, dishes and silverware**. That way we won't have to use corporate paper and plastic.

P.S. This is a child-friendly event so please leave your dog home, no matter how nice she is.

Thanks, Truthcrew 911

GMO Movie Specials

The Future of Food Hidden Dangers in Kid's Meals

The Olympia chapter of Reclaim Democracy is showing two documentaries on **Friday, September 16, 7:00 pm** at 620 Franklin (Beluga Software Cooperative) and **Sunday, September 18, 7:00 pm** at 300-5th Avenue (Traditions Fair Trade Café).

The Future of Food offers an in-depth investigation into the disturbing truth behind the unlabeled, patented, genetically engineered foods that have quietly filled U.S. grocery store shelves for the past decade. Shot on location in the U.S., Canada and Mexico, it examines the complex web of market and political forces that are changing what we eat as huge multinational corporations seek to control the world's food system. The film also explores alternatives to large-scale industrial agriculture, placing organic and sustainable agriculture as real solutions to the farm crisis today. **http://www.thefutureoffood.com**

Hidden Dangers in Kid's Meals: Genetically engineered foods offers shocking research results, inadequate regulations, and warnings from eminent scientists, explain why genetically engineered foods are dangerous and should be removed from kids' meals. The dramatic story of how student behavior in a Wisconsin school was transformed with a healthy diet provides added motivation to make a change.
The movies are **free** and open to everyone.

▸ **Announcements** *continued pg 15*

Should any political party attempt to abolish social security, unemployment insurance, and eliminate labor laws and farm programs, you would not hear of that party again in our political history. There is a tiny splinter group, of course, that believes that you can do these things. Among them are a few Texas oil millionaires, and an occasional politician or businessman from other areas. Their number is negligible, and they are stupid. —**President Dwight D. Eisenhower, 1952**

Benefit for **Cindy Sheehan** *and* **Gold Star Families for Peace**

Stop the War on Iraq

Saturday, September 24th, 7pm

Capitol Theater, 206 E. 5th Ave, Olympia

$5—$10 donation
$10 reserved seating tickets
at Traditions Fair Trade and
Rainy Day Records.

Bring the Troops Home

Join a community gathering to express our opposition to the US war on Iraq, our occupation of that country and the extraordinary misuse of our troops and national guard. Unite with friends and neighbors to voice our outrage over the growing US militarism here at home that invades our schools, attacks our immigrants and eliminates our social services. Speakers, strategies and follow-up actions—bring your friends and family.

Proceeds to benefit Cindy Sheehan and Gold Star Families for Peace—who are working to raise awareness in the United States about the true human costs of the invasion/occupation of Iraq.

www.gsfp.org

Keynote speaker,
Antonia Juhasz,
is a policy-analyst, activist, corporate-globalization expert and author of the forthcoming book, *The Bush Agenda: Invading the World, One Economy at a Time*.

Co-sponsored by El Heroico Batallon de San Patricio and Olympia Movement for Justice and Peace.
For information, call **Dan Leahy** *(360)* **402-0441** *or*
Jeanne Passarelli *(360)* **455-0422**

An Opportunity to Build an Anti-War Movement and End the Iraq War

by Peter Bohmer,
member of Olympia Movement
for Justice and Peace (OMJP)

On Friday, September 23rd, The Olympia Movement for Justice and Peace (OMJP) invites you to join us in an 18-mile walk from Sylvester Park in downtown Olympia all the way to Ft. Lewis. The purpose of this march for peace is to make a strong and visible stand against the U.S. war and to build a movement calling for the withdrawal of the United States from Iraq. We believe that the time is ripe to connect the growing anti-Iraq war feelings in the U.S. to visible protest and a growing anti-war movement. We have the opportunity to further isolate the Bush Administration and the neoconservative agenda and lead to a situation where they must withdraw from Iraq and realize they cannot build popular support for another war.

Over the last two years, support for this war has continued to decline for a variety of reasons including the growing numbers of U.S. casualties, the realization that the war has not made the U.S. people any safer, continuing resistance in Iraq to the U.S. occupation, learning about torturing of Iraqis in Abu Graib and other prisons, and the growing realization that there is no light at the end of the tunnel, that the U.S. military occupation of Iraq has no end in sight. On the other hand, some of those who despaired over Bush's re-election and prior decision to go to war in Iraq also think withdrawal would make things worse for the Iraqi people. Sadly, this well-meaning but misguided viewpoint had limited large-scale active protest and resistance to the war.

The powerful speaking out by Cindy Sheehan at Camp Casey in Crawford, Texas in the last month about the death of her son in Iraq, the refusal of President Bush to meet with her and her call for immediate withdrawal of the U.S. from Iraq has caught the nation's attention. Not only is she seen sympathetically by millions and millions of people but she and the social movement around her has led to increased interest in examining the war and the case for withdrawal. Part of Cindy Sheehan's appeal is that she is the mother of a dead soldier. It is also that her actions are directly against the war while simultaneously showing compassion and concern for the U.S. troops who are in Iraq or who will be sent there. It is a position that says concern for the troops means calling for an end to the war, not supporting the war, and a critique of the use and effects of depleted uranium and for the psychological and economic problems many of the troops will have when they return. Her position and ours also means concern for all casualties of this war, the more than 100,000 dead Iraqis and the more than 2,000 from the U.S. and other countries.

There are, therefore, real possibilities at the present time for a large and growing movement in the streets against the war that we can and should be part of. This walk on Friday, September 23rd is part of an international weekend of actions against the war including a demonstration in Seattle on Saturday, September 24th and a Support the Truth teach-in that night at the Capital Theater in Olympia. There will also be a very large demonstration in Washington, D.C.

We have decided to walk in a peaceful and non-confrontational manner for 18 miles to be visible and dramatic, and to show our commitment to take action against this immoral and illegal war. We are going to Ft. Lewis and will rally there, partly because it is an institution directly involved in carrying out the war. We are not going to Ft. Lewis to blame the troops. We are also going to Ft. Lewis in a sincere attempt to dialog with the troops about the war, and to make public by our actions and words that there is a growing anti-war movement that is sympathetic to both U.S. soldiers and the Iraqi people, understands their situation and wants to support U.S. soldiers against the war and in their civilian life.

We will rally at 8:00 A.M., Friday, September 23rd at Sylvester Park in downtown Olympia and then walk to Ft. Lewis 100 strong where we will be met by marchers from Tacoma. In a spirit of non-confrontation and concern for U.S. soldiers, a rally will be held outside the main gate of Ft. Lewis at 6:00 P.M. Please join us!! We need your involvement. To sign up as a marcher, to find out more about this march for peace, to get involved in organizing and supporting it, or to help in any way, call Nikki Miller at 273- 9800 or email her at nikki_miller@yahoo.com.

Serious resistance, of the sort Sheehan calls for, has to throw the threat of popular sanction over both Democrats as well as Republicans … How about Cindy Sheehan moving Camp Casey from Crawford to Hillary Clinton's offices in Washington or New York? —**Alexander Cockburn**

Mother's Day in Crawford

by Medea Benjamin and Gayle Brandeis

When Cindy Sheehan marched into Crawford, Texas to ask President Bush why her son died in Iraq, it was Mother's Day. Not the Hallmark-infused, soft focus, breakfast-in-bed Mother's Day that shows up on the calendar in May. This was the day that Julia Ward Howe envisioned when she created Mother's Day in 1870 as a time for all the mothers who lost their sons in the Civil War to protest the senseless violence.

Howe's Mother's Day Proclamation begins:

Arise then... women of this day!
Arise, all women who have hearts!

Cindy Sheehan has risen up against the senseless violence of this war in Iraq, and countless women and men have risen up with her. The numbers at Camp Casey continue to swell, and support pours in from all corners of the globe. While George Bush says he feels Sheehan's pain but must "get on with his life," Sheehan's supporters are uprooting themselves from their lives-often at great personal sacrifice—to vigil beside her in the hot Texas sun. Tired of seeing our soldiers and countless Iraqis die in an unjustified war, millions of Americans-especially mothers—are joining Sheehan's revolution of the heart. And in the process, they're exposing Bush's own heartlessness for refusing to meet with a grieving mother, and more tragically, for needlessly putting our sons and daughters in harm's way.

Those in the smear-Cindy camp have told Sheehan, in no uncertain terms, that she should go back home, where she belongs. But Sheehan has followed Julia Ward Howe's imperative:

As men have often forsaken
the plough and the anvil
At the summons of war
Let women now leave all that may
be left of home
For a great and earnest day
of counsel.

Sheehan's hoped-for day of counsel with Bush may never arrive. But another sort of counsel is taking place, the sort that Howe imagined:

Let them meet first, as women, to
bewail and commemorate
the dead.
Let them solemnly take counsel with
each other as to the means
Whereby the great human family
can live in peace.

This is precisely what is happening at the vigil in Crawford, Texas. Women are running the camp itself, organizing Sheehan's schedule, holding women's circles to share their grief and hope, writing letters appealing to Laura Bush, and strategizing ways to broaden and deepen this movement for peace.

During the Vietnam era, the anti-war movement was fueled primarily by students. Today, the anti-war movement is being fueled largely by mothers. Look at some of the organizations that have been created in the last few years: CODEPINK: Women for Peace, Gold Star Families for Peace, Military Families Speak Out, Raging Grannies. All of them reflect a mother's intense desire to not only shield her children from harm but to stop her children from doing harm to others.

Grave markers at Camp Casey commemorate US troops who have been killed during the US war on Iraq.

Again, we hear the voice of Julia Howe.

We, the women of one country,
Will be too tender of those of
another country
To allow our sons to be trained to
injure theirs.

In a recent statement urging Americans to listen to Cindy Sheehan, Elizabeth Edwards said, "If we are decent and compassionate, if we know the lessons we taught our children, or if, selfishly, all we want is the long line of the brave to protect us in the future, we should listen to the mothers now." Thanks to Cindy Sheehan, the mothers have arisen. Thanks to Cindy Sheehan, the world can't help but listen. Hopefully, George Bush is also hearing the message.

Medea Benjamin and Gayle Brandeis are members of CODEPINK: Women for Peace, a group that has been actively involved in the vigil in Crawford, Texas. Medea Benjamin is co-founder of CODEPINK, founder of Global Exchange, and nominee for the 2005 Nobel Peace Prize. Gayle Brandeis is the author of The Book of Dead Birds, *which won Barbara Kingsolver's Bellwether Prize for Fiction in Support of a Literature of Social Change.*

September 2005

This fall season re-introduces an old sixties show…

The White House Gets Smart

One television program guaranteed to end the confusion

MAX: I'm sorry I'm late, Chief, but I was stuck in the car for almost 20 minutes.

CHIEF: I know, 86, the traffic.

MAX: No, the seat belt. I can never get that darn thing unbuckled.

CHIEF: Max, I don't know what I'm going to do with you. You bungle assignment after assignment.

MAX: I resent that, Chief.

CHIEF: Do you deny it?

MAX: No, but I resent it.

CHIEF: There's no telling where they'll be able to infiltrate next. Maybe even the Pentagon.

MAX: You're right, Chief, but even if they do get a man into the Pentagon, that's not saying he'll be able to get out. I remember one of our own agents was lost in there for 3 days.

CHIEF: 3 days? Max, no agent could be that confused.

MAX: Well, let me see, I went in on a Friday...

99: Sometimes, I wish you were just an ordinary businessman.

MAX: Well, 99, we are what we are. I'm a secret agent, trained to be cold, vicious, and savage. Not enough to be a businessman.

99: Oh, Max, how terrible.

MAX: He deserved it, 99. He was a Kaos killer.

99: Sometimes I wonder if we're any better, Max.

MAX: What are you talking about, 99? We have to shoot and kill and destroy. We represent everything that's wholesome and good in the world.

CHIEF: All we know is that they threaten to wipe out the city containing our finest intellectual minds and greatest leaders.

MAX: Well, at least Washington is safe.

CHIEF: Are you thinking what I'm thinking?

MAX: No, I'm thinking what I'm thinking.

MAX: But I'm telling you, Chief, this is no ordinary kidnap attempt. I happen to have recognized one of those hoods as a Kaos man.

CHIEF: What's the man's name?

MAX: I can't remember.

CHIEF: What was the girl's name?

MAX: I didn't get it.

CHIEF: What about the license number of the girl's car?

MAX: I didn't see it.

CHIEF: How about the license of the other car?

MAX: I didn't notice.

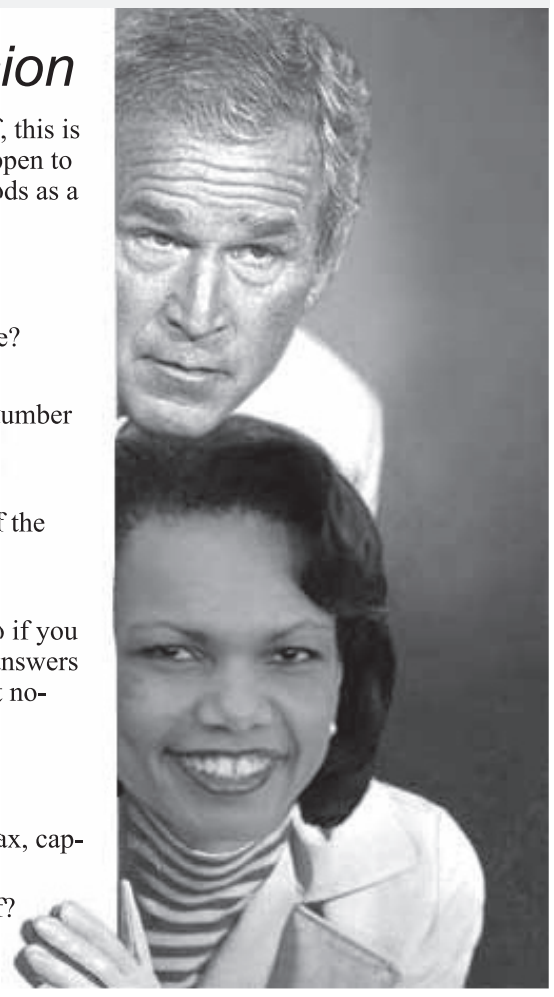
CHIEF: Max, what would you do if you were me and an agent gave you answers like "I can't remember," "I didn't notice," and "I didn't see it"?

MAX: I don't know.

CHIEF: Just don't get caught, Max, capture means certain death.

MAX: Suicide mission, eh, Chief? Well, you picked the right man.

CHIEF: I hope so.



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
SENATOR: Mr. Smart, how many arrests did Control make last year? **MAX: I don't know.** **SENATOR: Who's the #1 man in your organization?** **MAX: I don't know.**		**SENATOR: How many cases were assigned to Control last year?** **MAX: I don't know.** **SENATOR: What would you do if you were fired, Mr. Smart.** **MAX: They can't fire me…**		**1** 2004: Nader placed on WA ballot 2004: Fed judge halts sale of OK Indian lands by Interior Dept	**2** 2004: Bush states US has "a calling from beyond the stars to stand for freedom" and "nothing will hold us back"	**3** 2003: Appeals court delays new FCC media ownership rules 2003: Paris buries 57 of 11,435 heat victims
4 1957: Jeering whites watch as troopers bar 9 African-American students from Central High in Little Rock	**5** 2004: Documents are missing that would explain gaps in Pres Bush's military service in 1972 and 1973	**6** 1996: Sen Slade Gorton charges military action against Iraq failed, "US has been defeated and humiliated."	**7** 2004: US death toll in Iraq tops 1,000 2004: Judge Hicks rejects WA state ban on gay marriage	**8** 2004: Memo from Bush's commander obtained by CBS orders GW "to be suspended for failure to perform"	**9** 2004: Congressional hearing reveals FDA suppressed info that anti-depressants could harm children	**10** 2004: Bush military documents disputed because of "th" superscript; CBS stands behind their experts
11 1973: US backed coup assassinates Allende 2003: Israeli security council vows to 'remove' Arafat	**12** 2003: UW: summer driest in last century 2003: Powell says US won't cede Iraq authority to UN	**13** 2004: NASCAR eliminates Thurston County as a possible site for a 75,000 seat race-track	**14** 2004: Ex-guard secretary says CBS memos are fake, but the info in the forged documents is true	**15** 2004: Military approves Captain Yee's resignation and he will be honorably discharged January 7	**16** 2004: Tumwater, Lacey, and Olympia reject an offer to buy water from the former Tumwater brewery	**17** 2004: Team of 20 international observers begin to observe this year's presidential election in 5 states
18 2003: Zimbabwe police defy court order to allow the only independent daily newspaper to resume publishing	**19** 1885: Chinese driven out of Black Diamond WA 2004: Port of Olympia receives $75,000 from Homeland Security	**20** 1973: Billie Jean King beat Bobby Riggs in 3 straight sets 2004: CBS apologizes for Guard memos	**21** 2004: Ex-Cat Stevens, British Muslim peace activist barred from US for activities possibly related to terrorism	**22** 2003: Largest ice shelf in Northern Hemisphere reported split in 2 2004: Senate approves Goss to head CIA	**23** 2000: Supporters of Leonard Peltier gather at Sylvester Park encouraging Clinton to grant clemency	**24** 2004: Group of Native-Americans block re-enactment of Lewis and Clark expedition on Missouri R in SD
25 2003: Rumsfeld: ace of spades in French deck 2004: Israeli troops destroy 35 homes in Gaza refugee camp	**26** 2004: Survey of WA residents reveals 53% believe United States made a mistake by invading Iraq	**27** 2004: N Korean minister says N Korea has created nuclear weapons to deter a US nuclear attack	**28** 2004: High level of flame retardant found in breast milk in NW 2004: GW's hometown paper backs Kerry	**29** 2004: Wal-Mart official announces the company has purchased 17 acres in east Yelm to build a new store	**30** 2004: Anti-gay marriage bill fails in US House 2004: Merck recalls Vioxx due to doubling of heart attacks/strokes	**SENATOR: And why is that?** **MAX: I know too much.** Quotes source: imdb.com

Local high school students must act soon to avoid recruiters

OPT OUT of the lies

by Larry Mosqueda, Ph.D.

By August of 2005, the majority of Americans have turned against the US war against Iraq, which has been going on for 2 1/2 years (or for almost 15 years if the continuing Iraq war is dated from 1991). President Bush's approval rating has dropped to the level of Richard Nixon's during the height of Watergate.

We now know that the war was and is illegal and immoral under international law, domestic law and the moral codes of most US religions, as even admitted by Bush advisor Richard Pearle. (See news report on Perle, Guardian/UK, November 20, 2003, and my article, "A Duty to Disobey All Illegal Orders," www.counterpunch.org, 2/27/03).

We now know that that there were NO Weapons of Mass Destruction in Iraq at the time of the US invasion and that Iraq was NOT connected in any way with the attacks of 9/11, as Bush himself now admits (See "Bush 9/11 Admission Gets Little Play," http://www.commondreams.org/headlines03/0919-05.htm, 9/19/03), even though Bush continues to imply that the current war is somehow connected to that fateful day.

Because of the leaked British Downing Street memos, we now know that that Bush and Blair knew that the reasons that they gave the public for the war were false and they knew that they were lying about the reasons for the war as they tried to fake the intelligence about Iraq. Now Bush and Blair are lying about the lying as they tell us that they are looking for the truth. (See www.timesonline.co.uk, May 1, 2005)

No Child Left Behind

These revelations have become more pronounced, and the war is going terribly wrong, not just legally and morally, but also strategically and tactically. Yet, the US government continues to try to lure young men and women into the armed forces to fight in this war, and the schools of America cooperate with this deception because of the Orwellian-named "No Child Left Behind" act (NCLB) of 2001.

According to NCLB, high schools are required to supply the names, addresses, phone numbers and other personal information to the military for recruitment into the armed forces.

The most vulnerable among us, the children, are being subjected to lies about the war and their possible participation. Students and their parents can OPT OUT of giving this information to the military, but it is difficult to find out how to do this. I will present some factual information for students and their parents to consider before they give their personal information to the military.

GI Bill-Education

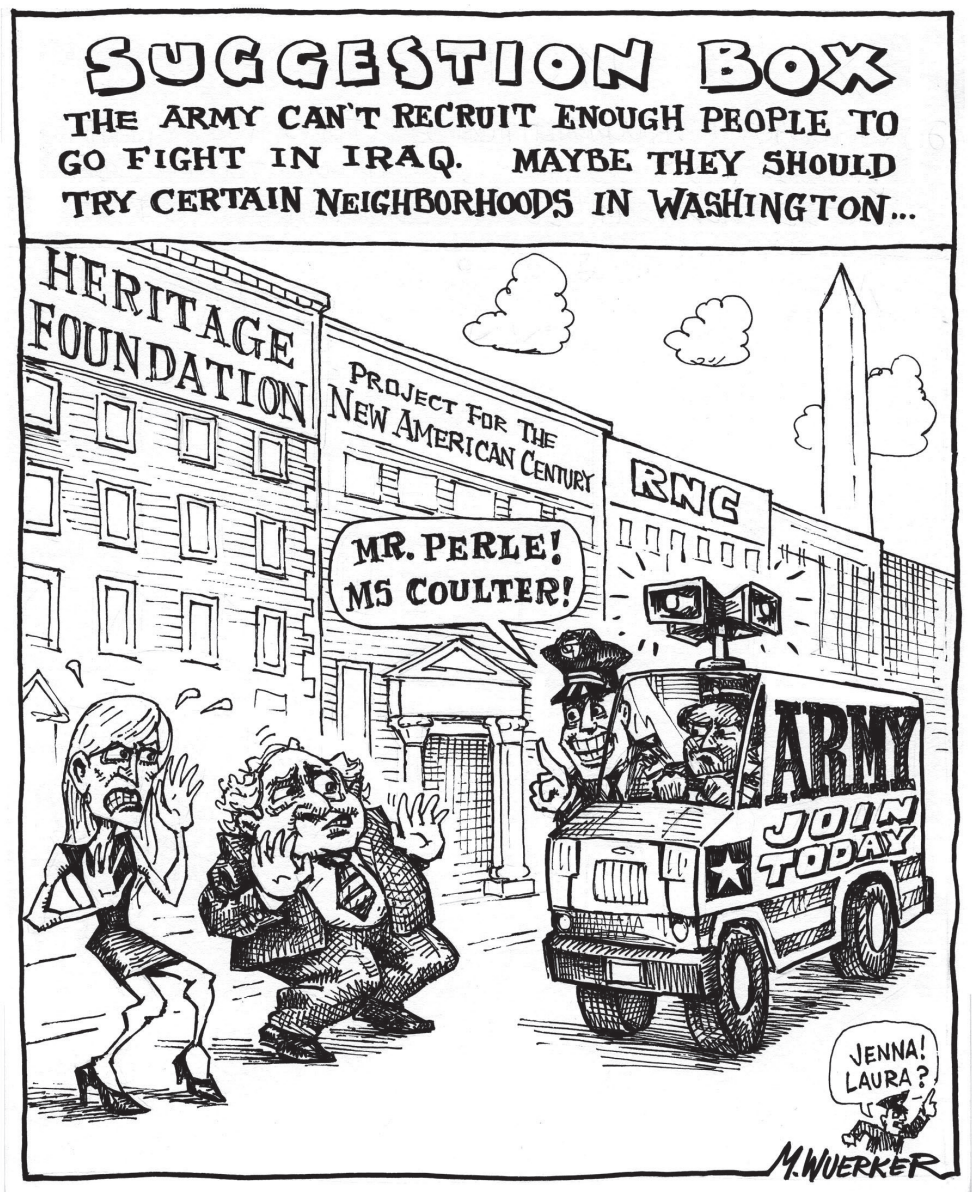
While "patriotism" is often considered the reason for joining the service, many studies conclude that "'money for college' is the leading reason civilians enlist." (*Chronicle of Higher Education* (*CHE*), 5/13/05.) Recruiters pitch this as a main benefit of enlistment, but this is a false promise for the vast majority of enlistees. Over 90% of enlistees have signed up for the educational benefits over the past 10 years. However only 8% of those eligible have used their full benefits (up to $36,144). Each enlistee is required to pay $1200 in the first year to register for the program. (It is not a "free" benefit.) Thirty percent of veterans do not use their educational "benefits" at all and get NO refund of the money they invest. This group effectively has given $230 million to the US treasury. (*CHE*, 5/13/05)

> According to NCLB, high schools are required to supply the names, addresses, phone numbers and other personal information to the military for recruitment into the armed forces.

Those who use their full benefit or partially use them do not get a "free" education. The current Montgomery GI Bill "covers about 60% of the average cost of college according to the College Board." (*CHE*) The benefits are much different from the GI Bill of World War II, where the cost of college was essentially covered by a grateful nation in the "good war." *CHE* has also reported that many veterans are discouraged from using their benefits by the bureaucracy of the VA. The current war is not your grandfather's war and the benefits are not your grandfather's benefits. Encouraging youth to join the military as a form of college financial aid, considering the time commitment (eight years), the limited payout, the dangers and the illegality of the war, and the few who actually benefit, is essentially a scam that, if it were being perpetuated by a private company, may very well be investigated as consumer fraud.

Job Training

While any job experience has some value, the Project on Youth and Non-Military Opportunities (Project YANO) notes that military training is for military jobs and not for training for civilian occupations. In the pre-war Department of Defense's *2002 Status of Forces Survey of Active-Duty Members*, "only 54% of all military members (including officers) said that they were satisfied with their training and professional development, and only 39% were satisfied with the total compensation they received for their work. As stated by Vice President Richard Cheney back when he was Secretary of Defense, "The Military is not a social welfare agency; it's not a jobs program." (Cheney himself never served in the military.)


SUGGESTION BOX
THE ARMY CAN'T RECRUIT ENOUGH PEOPLE TO GO FIGHT IN IRAQ. MAYBE THEY SHOULD TRY CERTAIN NEIGHBORHOODS IN WASHINGTON...
HERITAGE FOUNDATION
PROJECT FOR THE NEW AMERICAN CENTURY
RNC
MR. PERLE! MS COULTER!
ARMY
JOIN TODAY
JENNA! LAURA?
M.WUERKER

Abuse

Prospective recruits should know that there are many cases of abuse around issues of race, gender, and homophobia. In 1996, "65% of active-duty personnel reported having experienced racially offensive behavior; 10% had experienced threatening incidents or career related racial discrimination." A 2003 survey "found that 30% of women reported being the victims of rape or attempted rape while in the military; 75% had experienced sexual harassment (Reuters Health, 3/14/03)." (Project YANO). Discrimination against gays, of course, is official policy in the military. The number of involuntary discharges has actually increased since the "Don't ask, don't tell" policy started.

Military recruiters rarely, if ever, give the above information to potential recruits. Their job is to sell the product much like a used car, and not give out any negative information. One veteran recruiter stated, "I've been recruiting for years and I don't know of one recruiter who wasn't dishonest about it. I did it myself." While it is not possible to know that all recruiters are dishonest, the military itself recognized the overwhelming abuses in its system when it shut down all recruiting offices in the country on May 20, 2005. They attempted to retrain recruiters because of all the publicly acknowledged abuses that were happening across the country. It is doubtful that one day of public atonement has reversed years of abuse.

Controlling military recruiter access to schools

Under NCLB, parents and students have the option of telling their school that they do not want the name of the student given to the military for recruitment or harassment by the military. The parents and student need to take a proactive step. Because of active parents and others, in Seattle's school district is offering three options for the public release of student information this year. According to the *Seattle PI* of 8/23/05, parents can:

A) Release their child's name, address, telephone number and other "directory" information to the military, colleges and universities, scholarship grantors and other groups.

B) Refuse to release their child's information to the military only.

C) Refuse to release their child's information to all groups.

The OPT-OUT form is available on the school district website. The deadline is very soon; it must be turned in by October 10.

For the Olympia area, the forms are due sooner and are more confusing. The link for the opt-out form for the Olympia School District (OSD) is at **http://kids.osd.wednet.edu/**. Unfortunately this form does not have the option

"Refuse to release the child's information to the military only."

If parents and students want that option (and retain the right to have the students' name available to colleges and universities) it is suggested that they write that explicitly on the form. There is no law that states that you need to take the name off of all lists to not have it given to the military, as demonstrated by the Seattle form and many others across the nation. It is suggested that the completed form be sent to the principle, superintendent, and a trusted advisor, as well as retaining a copy for yourself to establish a paper trail. The OSD states that the deadline for the return of this form is September 16, 2005. Given that school does not start until September

▸ **Opt Out** *continued pg 10*

ReclaimDemocracy takes on corporate personhood

by Becky Porter

Ask a friend or colleague to define the term "corporation". Most will define it as a large company with limited liability. Ask if corporations should be defined as persons, with the same rights to life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness as the rest of us, and you might just get some laughs.

The truth, unfortunately, is hardly a laughing matter. Thanks to an 1886 Supreme Court misappropriation*, today's corporations enjoy many of the very same human protections and privileges as you and I. *Add these legally defensible and even exploitable constitutional rights to a corporation's endless financial resources, media control and limited liability privileges, and the makings to overthrow democracy unfold.*

While many Americans do not yet realize the extent to which corporate power controls our lives, corporate control over the governed is in some cases beginning to make itself obvious:

1. Today's free speech laws virtually enable corporations to buy votes; Since free speech was equated with money in the 1970's, it has become unlawful to limit the amount of money a corporation can contribute to a campaign. Corporations hold that doing so would limit their constitutional right to "free" speech.

2. A direct consequence to the above, taxpayer money is increasingly being spent in areas that benefit corporations and their wealthy counterparts to the detriment of the public at large; While weaponry and war spending is skyrocketing, and while enormous tax breaks are being handed out to rich corporations and the super-wealthy, the educational and social services necessary to sustain the public are being under-funded or slashed. Similarly, domains that have long belonged to the public are being "privatized" or, in other words, handed over to the highest corporate bidder.

3. Corporations are successfully suing local governments that pass laws to control corporate behavior in their communities. The corporations charge that the townships, cities or states in question are violating their "constitutional rights" as "persons" under the first and fourteenth amendments.

4. Corporations also challenge local communities by manipulating federal law in their favor; In California, the Bush Administration actually joined a lawsuit brought against the state by General Motors and Daimler Chrysler, charging that by regulating car emissions California is trying to regulate fuel economy – something only the federal government has the authority to do. (An agreement was reached and the suit was dropped, but in 2004 another California law requiring new automobiles to emit fewer greenhouse gases was challenged in federal court. The case, which was brought in part by the Alliance of Automobile Manufacturers, is pending.)

5. Corporations use their "right to privacy" and their "right to unlawful searches and seizures" to keep government inspectors off their property, sometimes until it is too late to prevent what become serious violations of environmental law. In terms of lives, dollars, or both, the damage then becomes the public's problem.

6. A recent Supreme Court ruling on Eminent Domain set a precedent that makes it legal for municipalities to force homeowners to sell their property if it is found to be in the "economic interest" of the city. In the words of former Justice Sandra Day O'Conner, "Any property may now be taken for the benefit of another private party, but the fallout from this decision will not be random. The beneficiaries are likely to be those citizens with disproportionate influence and power in the political process, including large corporations and development firms."

> Democratic rule by, for and of "the people" is becoming more rhetoric than reality, and corporate policies are dominating America's agenda.

While the list of corporate abuses is long and daunting, it is important to remember that America's corporations have not always been allowed this kind of reign over our lives. In fact, the revolution that led to our country's founding was as much a revolution against corporations like England's infamous East India Company, which used force to monopolize the colony's market, as it was against the crown itself. Early America was very careful with the powers it granted corporations, and created laws that among other things limited corporate life-spans, revoked charters when necessary, made it illegal for corporations to own other companies, and insisted that, in addition to making money, a corporation had to operate in the public interest.

Over the years, corporations have successfully pushed for laws that have created an overwhelming imbalance of power in their favor: Today's corporations have no limitations put on their "life-spans", but live on and on until they fold or declare bankruptcy; while most states still have the authority to revoke corporate charters, charter revocation has been virtually unheard of in the 21st century. (This even though a 1982 study found that 23 percent of America's largest 500 companies were either convicted of criminal behavior or forced to pay a penalty of more than $50,000 for serious misbehavior during the previous decade*). Today's corporations are not only allowed to own other companies, they are allowed to own subsidiaries as a means to funnel money and evade taxes. Finally, the notion that corporations must operate for the public good in addition to maximizing profits has largely been lost, while their limited liability status – originally granted to them *because* they served the public interest – remains intact. Unaccountable to their creditors, to the environment and to the communities in which they operate, today's corporations are allowed unparalleled power and influence over our lives. Democratic rule by, for and of "the people" is becoming more rhetoric than reality, and corporate policies are dominating America's agenda.

But in a country that values democracy, where free and fair elections are demanded, it is possible to return to an era where corporations are subservient to the people who created them. A major grassroots movement to abolish Corporate Personhood is under way, and citizens all across America – liberals and conservatives, activists, farmers and small business owners—are getting together to enact local laws to control the behavior of the corporations that do business in their communities.

Returning corporations to their rightful place in the legal world – defining them as superficial entities designed by people to make money, as opposed to "persons" with inherent rights and privileges—will take significant time, energy and vision. But just as the emancipation and women's suffrage movements found support and ultimate triumph, so too might the justice of this cause one day prove undeniable to American values of decency and equality.

For more information on Corporate Personhood, visit the following sites:

ReclaimDdemocracy.org **http://www.reclaimdemocracy.org**

Program on Corporations, Law and Democracy **http://www.poclad.org/**

Women's International League of Peace and Freedom (WILPF) **http://www.wilpf.org/**

**For information on how Corporate Personhood has been predicated on a court reporter's misleading headnote rather than on an actual Supreme Court ruling, read Thom Hartmann's book* Unequal Protection.

**Corporate crime information was taken from Thom Hartmann's book* Unequal Protection *page 184.*

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▸ **Bread & Roses** *from page 1*

ber, notes that the benefits of Bread & Roses have not traveled in only one direction. "Bread & Roses has introduced young people—volunteers in their early 20s—to social service and social justice work. This introductory experience is profound and often leads to a lifelong commitment to this work." The list of those who have actively contributed to the development of Bread & Roses is long—ranging from one volunteer currently finishing medical school residency with intent to start a clinic for indigent persons, to an Elma, WA couple who moved to Central America to continue advocacy work with the poor.

Advocacy Center

At the Bread & Roses Advocacy Center (BRAC), one-on-one advocates serve as friends and guides in assisting individuals navigate the social service system, gain housing, and develop an income. BRAC also helps to meet basic needs that the mainstream population often takes for granted—including laundry vouchers, bus passes, hygiene items, mail and telephone service. BRAC has served an average of 65 people a day for the past two years—roughly half of whom report having a mental illness. Since its opening in fall 2003, BRAC has assisted 63 people in entering permanent housing.

Shelters

The Devoe Shelter has offered emergency shelter for 35 to 70 single men and women every night since its opening in November, 2001. The Bread & Roses Men's Shelter is often the last safety net for many individuals, housing 35 chronically homeless men. In 1990, members of the community donated and moved the Women's Guesthouse Shelter from near St. John's church to its present location on 8th Avenue. The Women's Guest House has provided at least 12 women and families per night with transitional shelter since its opening in 1990.

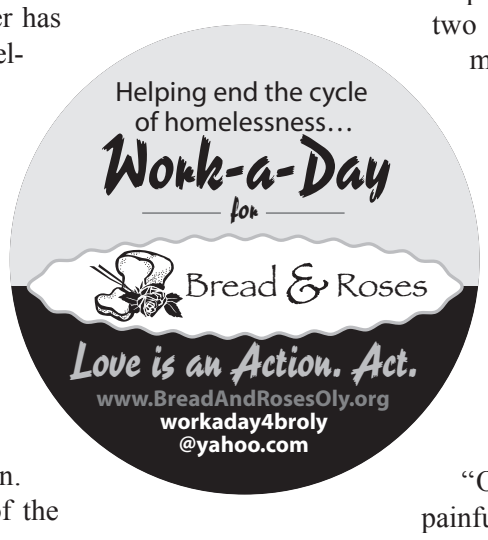
Literacy Program

The *Voice of Olympia* is a street newspaper published monthly by Bread & Roses. The publication provides Olympia area homeless and low-income residents both a forum for the exchange of ideas and opinions and a venue for self-expression. Bread & Roses operates a vendor program associated with *The Voice* which is an alternative to panhandling. *Voice* vendors earn 70 cents on every paper sold.

The Bread & Roses Learning Center and Street Library offers access to information based on a popular education model. It also provides referral services and help individuals attain educational goals such as obtaining a GED or a college degree.

Past Service: Soup Kitchen

In 1982, the community kitchen operated out of the Bread & Roses staff house on 8th Avenue. In the mid-80's it moved to a location on Water Street, and then to Cherry Street in 1989. Hundreds of area residents from churches, colleges, highschool and community groups volunteered their time to operate the Soup Kitchen. In its last two years of serving meals, volunteers served two meals a day, 6 days a week—serving between 150 and 200 people per meal.



The Kitchen closed in 2003 after a long battle with gentrification downtown. "One particularly painful element of this struggle," reflected longtime Bread & Roses staff member, Nanci LaMusga, "was the public perception that the homeless population was the epicenter of drug trafficking in downtown Olympia. Rather, it was drug dealers who preyed on this vulnerable segment of the populace."

Emphasis on Self-Sufficiency

"Bread & Roses' emphasis is one of self-sufficiency", remarks Kilmoyer. "Our role has evolved from providing meals and shelter to providing guests the individual assistance necessary to become self-empowered." The atmosphere at Bread & Roses is vibrant, passionate, and nurturing—enabling guests to rediscover themselves as valuable human beings, capable of participating in and contributing to the larger society. With the vision of a world free from the isolation of poverty, and the mission to serve the poor, homeless, and marginalized of Thurston county, the eleven staff volunteers embody the spirit of the Catholic Worker movement, which is grounded in a firm belief in the dignity of every human being.

Work-a-Day

While the organization has been a magnet for vibrant young activists in Olympia, the non-profit has struggled with financial hardship throughout its history. With a mission to serve poor, homeless and marginalized people of Thurston County, it is not surprising that the organization often has few resources.

This Labor Day season, Thurston county residents are encouraged to support Bread & Roses during "Work-a-Day for Bread & Roses" by making a tax-deductible donation of a day's wages (or an amount they can afford). "Work-a-Day for Bread & Roses" is Monday, September 12th. To register, call (360) **786-6729**; email: **workaday4broly@yahoo.com**; or visit: **http://www.BreadandRosesOly.org**

Once registered, you will be mailed a donation envelope and Work-a-Day participation sticker. Thanks for your support!

This one-time ad cost $100 to place.

Five ads this size would more than pay for a 12-page issue of Works In Progress.

(See page 2 for info about special rates.)

Paid for anonymously by a local WIP supporter.

Labor Updates

UNITE HERE Local 8

http://www.greedyspaceneedle.info/

The symbol of Seatte—the Space Needle—gives the Pacific NW a poor image regarding worker's rights. Currently in stalled contract negotiations, these workers' issues include: freedom of speech; basic protections for immigrant workers; freedom to donate vacation time to other workers in need; arbitrary drug testing.

SEIU 1199NW

http://www.seiu1199nw.org

Negotiations with Providence Sound HomeCare and Hospice management are at a stand-still. These health care workers are fighting for a fair contract, and asking for community-standard wages and affordable health care! Show community support by writing letters-to-the editor.

AMFA Local 14

Northwest Airlines strike

Show solidarity with Aircraft Mechanics Fraternal Association in nationwide terminal picket lines on **Friday September 9th**—SeaTac included. Show the thousands of workers across the country who are on the brink of losing their jobs, pensions, and unions that the community cares and wants to make a difference. Info: **http://www.amfa14.org/**

IAM 751

Possible Boeing strike

Seattle's International Association of Machinists District Lodge 751 is on the brink of striking at Boeing. Stayed tuned for information at: **http://www.iam751.org/**

UNITE HERE Local 8 picket line at Olympia's Ramada enjoys pizza during the Olympia Workers' Association Day of Community Solidarity for Pizza Time strikers. Support for the striking Pizza Time workers was tremendous, although the negotiations with Pizza Time were ultimately unsuccessful.

The Smokescreen of the Gaza Disengagement: A fact sheet

International Solidarity Movement

Palestine, August 19, 2005

With the deluge of coverage about Israel's "disengagement" from Gaza, it's easy to be lulled into the idea that the "road map" to peace in the region is moving ahead and that the occupation is nearing some sort of conclusion. It's important to keep in mind the information offered in this fact sheet.

Gaza Disengagement Intended to Freeze Peace Process: According to an October, 2004 Ha'aretz Daily interview with Dov Weisglass, senior advisor to Israeli Prime Minister Ariel Sharon, "the significance of the disengagement plan is the freezing of the peace process…. Effectively, this whole package called the Palestinian state, with all that it entails, has been removed indefinitely from our agenda ….All with a presidential blessing and the ratification of both houses of Congress."[1]

Gaza Will Still Be Occupied: Israel has not yet agreed to allow Palestinians to control Gaza's border with Egypt, to allow movement of goods and people between Gaza and the West Bank, or to allow Palestinians to control Gaza's air and sea space. Unless Israel agrees to cede Palestinian control to Palestinians in these areas, multiple sources (including the International Committee of the Red Cross, Human Rights Watch, B'Tselem, Hamoked, and departments of the Israeli government) concur that Gaza will still be legally identified as a place under Israeli military occupation.[2]

Israel's Gaza Plans Do Not Meet Even the United States' Minimum Expectations: Israel's plan to "disengage" from the Gaza Strip does not meet even the minimum expectations articulated by the United States. Secretary of State Condoleezza Rice stated, "when the Israelis withdraw from Gaza it cannot be sealed or [an] isolated area, with the Palestinian people closed in after that withdrawal. We are committed to connectivity between Gaza and the West Bank, and we are committed to openness and freedom of movement for the Palestinian people."[3]

Israel Asks the U.S. for Additional $2.2 Billion for Disengagement: On top of the $3 billion in aid that the United States gives annually to Israel, the Israeli government is asking for an additional $2.2 billion over three years to help pay for the Gaza Disengagement. 2/3rds of that amount may be used to develop the Galilee and the Negev for relocated Jewish settlers, further dislocating Israel's Palestinian citizens living in those regions (*Washington Post*).[4]

All Israeli Settlements Violate International Law: All Israeli settlements in the Gaza Strip and the West Bank, including East Jerusalem, are considered violations of international law, specifically the Fourth Geneva Convention, according to Amnesty International, Human Rights Watch, B'Tselem (Israeli), the International Court of Justice, the United Nations and almost all governments in the world. Though Israel deceptively labels some settlements "legal" and others "illegal outposts", all Israeli settlements and outposts are illegal under international law.[5]

420,000 Illegal Israeli Settlers Remain in West Bank: Only 9,000 Israeli settlers are being withdrawn from illegal Israeli settlements in the Gaza Strip and from four illegal settlements in the West Bank. Approximately 420,000 Israeli settlers remain in illegal settlements in the West Bank, including East Jerusalem (*The New York Times* and multiple sources).[6]

Rapid West Bank Settlement Expansion and Wall Construction Continues: The expansion of illegal Israeli settlements throughout the West Bank continues at a rapid pace, particularly in areas that Israel plans to annex on the west side of the Wall and in the four major settlement blocks (multiple sources). During the period that Israel has been talking about destroying 2,000 settler homes in the Gaza Strip, it has been building more than 6,400 settler homes in the occupied West Bank (Ali Abunimah on Democracy Now)[7]. Continued construction of Israel's Wall on Palestinian land is annexing Palestinian land to Israel in Bil'in and tens of other West Bank villages.

Israeli Settlements Take Strategic Land: In Gaza and the West Bank, Israeli settlements are typically built in water rich, strategic locations that facilitate Israeli control of resources and land, and divide up Palestinian territory into discontinuous areas (Israeli Committee Against House Demolitions).[8]

Israeli Settlers Killed Eight Palestinians During Last two Weeks: Two Israeli settlers shot and killed eight Palestinians with no provocation during the last two weeks. Despite these murders by Israelis, and a lack of Palestinian violence, the international media has continued to focus primarily on the possibility of "Palestinian violence" during the disengagement.

Israel Uprooted 800,000 Palestinian Refugees from Their Homes in 1948 and 1967: Israel and the international media are dramatizing the evacuation of 9,000 Israelis from illegal settlements in Gaza where they have lived for no more than thirty years. Israel forced 737,000 Palestinians to flee their ancestral homes in Palestine in 1948, and an additional 69,000 Palestinians to feel their homes in 1967. The Israeli government continues to fail to take responsibility for this massive dispossession, and to grant Palestinian refugees their right of return as guaranteed by international law (Al Awda).[9]

A Jewish settler, holding her child, shouts as she is escorted by Israeli soldiers out of Shirat Hayam, a Jewish settlement in Gaza.

Facts Specific To Gaza

Israel Controls One Third of Gaza: Approximately 9,000 settlers and the Israeli military have controlled 33 percent of the tiny, overcrowded Gaza Strip, while 1.3 million Palestinians, most of them refugees or offspring of refugees, were packed into the remaining 67 percent of the Gaza Strip (*The New York Times*, 8/18/2005).[10]

Israel Impoverished Gaza: Each square mile of Palestinian land in Gaza holds, on average, about 14,000 Palestinians. Unemployment among Palestinians is estimated at 45 percent, and most Gaza families live on less than $2 a day (*The New York Times*, 8/18/2005)[11]. Because of its past policies, Israel is responsible for the current situation in Gaza (One Big Prison: B'Tselem and Hamoked).[12]

Israeli Settlers Receive Hundreds of Thousands of Dollars in Compensation: During the disengagement, each Israeli settler family was eligible for compensation of $300,000 to $500,000 from the Israeli government for leaving homes on illegal settlements in the West Bank or Gaza Strip (*Christian Science Monitor* 8/12/2005 and multiple sources).[13]

Israeli Settlers Have Received Years of Government Subsidies: Israeli settlers benefit from multiple government subsidies for rent, water, electricity, agriculture, etc. (B'Tselem).[14]

Homes of 30,000 Palestinians Demolished by Israel in Gaza with No Compensation: While only 9,000 settlers will leave their homes in Gaza and four settlements in the West Bank, the Israeli army destroyed the homes of 30,000 Palestinians in the Gaza Strip alone over the last four years, many of them in refugee camps, many bordering on Israeli settlements. Palestinians receive no compensation from the Israeli government for demolished homes. (Danny Rubinstein in *Ha'aretz Daily*).[15]

Israelis Pack, Palestinians Leave Homes with 15 Minutes Notice: Special Israeli army units helped Israeli settlers in Gaza to pack up their belongings as they left their homes. The Israeli army typically gives Palestinians a maximum of fifteen minutes warning to pack their belongings and leave their homes before demolishing their homes.

Israeli Settlers Exploited Gazan Laborers: Israeli settlers paid trapped Palestinian refugees from Gaza one third of Israel's minimum wage to work as agricultural laborers. Israeli settlers paid Palestinian laborers no compensation upon terminating their employment due to the disengagement (Amira Hass in *Ha'aretz Daily*).[16]

Nonviolence for Israeli Lawbreakers, Violence for Palestinian Civilians: The Israeli army used no weapons to evacuate protesting Israeli settlers who live on Palestinian land in violation of international law and terrorize and kill Palestinians[17]. The Israeli army regularly uses violence and excessive force against Palestinian civilians going about their daily lives and Palestinian non-violent protesters (B'Tselem, Human Rights Watch and Amnesty International).[18]

Palestinians Under Curfew and More Settler Attacks in Gaza: Israel has imposed curfews on Palestinians in a number of communities in Gaza bordering the settlements during the settler evacuation. Meanwhile, Israeli settlers in Gaza continued attacks on Palestinian civilians even as the Israeli military was evacuating them (*Aljazeera.net*).[19]

For reference list see the full article at **www.palsolidarity.org**

The Israeli army regularly uses violence and excessive force against Palestinian civilians going about their daily lives.

VICS
PIZZERIA
360.943.8044
233 Division St NW

If we want police accountability ...

by Drew Hendricks

Olympia Police Officer Mel Jetter was almost fired in November of 2002. Two of his peers, officers who were responsible for evaluating his behavior as an officer, recommended that he be terminated. Commander Steve Nelson and Chief Gary Michel decided instead to give him 15 days off without pay. The chief asked Mel to write a paper, entitled "The Role of Ethical Conduct in Law Enforcement," because (Chief's words) "ethical behavior is not learned in training." The chief gave Mel five weeks to write this paper, and let Mel choose the length of the report.

The justification for Mel Jetter's discipline was his use of a personal cell phone during duty for up to six hours on one occasion, and for over four hours on several other occasions. He also initiated two relationships with police volunteers he supervised, despite the ethical concerns raised by his decision to have sex with people with whom he worked.

More troubling was what happened in April or May of 2002, when Mel and his one-time lover Cheryl King had a meeting in the State of Washington parking lot a block north of the Police station on 8th Ave. Mel says that he did not strike Cheryl with his patrol car, but she says that he did. Her husband, Dennis, witnessed the incident, and she yelled to him at the time that he had hit her. He told her to report it. But when she returned to the private police parking lot, Mel ordered Cheryl King and her husband Dennis out of the parking lot, because Dennis was a civilian. Mel was on duty and armed at the time. That makes Mel's action a Class C felony called tampering with a witness. Cheryl King and her husband left the parking lot that day, and did not report the incident again for some weeks or months afterward. That is one reason we still don't know the exact day it occurred, even though Mel Jetter admits he ordered both Cheryl and Dennis out of the lot.

That the Chief of Police, Commander Nelson, and his supervisors missed this obvious crime is not what should surprise us. It happens every time foxes investigate crimes committed in the hen house. What should surprise us is that it took a case in a court of law to pry this sad story from the clutches of a department steeped in secrecy. When people go to court, they are willing to file almost anything to make their enemies look like villains. When those enemies are former lovers, the evidence can get a bit intimate.

That the Chief of Police, Commander Nelson, and his supervisors missed this obvious crime is not what should surprise us. It happens every time foxes investigate crimes committed in the hen house.

Let's stop a minute, stepping aside from the mud and blood in the pages of our courthouse's files, and remember that "ethical conduct is not learned in training." Let's keep that phrase in mind when we ask for the people responsible for discipline in the Olympia Police Department to pack their bags for distant lands. And let us remember it when we begin taking up the collection to hire our own police oversight structure.

Police accountability does not grow from the barrel of a gun, and it does not grow in the garden plot scratched out by City Council subcommittees. If we want police accountability, we must take our public records back from our public servants, and sing out loud the sins of those who would enforce our laws, until their faces blush with shame and their hindquarters disappear into the glowing orb of the setting sun.

▸ **Opt Out** *from page 6*

7th, this appears to be an unreasonable deadline, so be forewarned. Students and parents may want to take up this issue with their school. Alternatively, one could write, as with this sample letter, to the appropriate persons listed above, stating:

> Dear Administrator,
>
> I am writing to request that you do not make (student's name) name, address or telephone listing available for military recruitment purposes as is provided for under Paragraph 2, Subsection (a) of Section 9528 of Public Law 107-100. I look forward to your prompt response to this letter.
>
> Thank you for your assistance.
>
> Sincerely,
> Name, signature, address

For Tumwater High School, while I could not find any information about the Opt-Out option, I did find out that the military recruiters were coming to campus on October 25-29, as well as in the winter and spring. For those in Tumwater who want to Opt-out, I suggest the letter format above, and it should be sent during the first week of school since there is no easily accessible information on their website at **http://www.tumwater.k12.wa.us/schools/ths/**.

For North Thurston High School, the information about the possible release of students' names is on page 28 of a 38-page Students Rights and Responsibilities handbook. There is no OPT-OUT form provided, but it does say that principals need to be informed in writing by September 25th to not have your name released. It is suggested that the letter format above be used. North Thurston's website is at **http://www.nthurston.k12.wa.us/education/components/scrapbook/default.php?sectionid=1**.

The current war is not your grandfather's war and the benefits are not your grandfather's benefits.

Space does not permit developing further the advantages and disadvantages of joining the armed forces at this time or the dangers and opportunities of the military, but it is clear that students will not get the full truth from military recruiters. For further information see the following websites (among others).

Recruitment Education.org at **http://www.recruitment-education.org/**

Critical Concern at **http://criticalconcern.com/recruiting.htm**

Army of None at **http://www.activ8media.org/armypage.html**

Veterans for Peace at **http://www.veteransforpeace.org/deceptioninrecruiting.htm#_ednref4**

Military Families Speak Out at **http://www.mfso.org/**

Students against Militarization of our Youth at **http://militaryoffcampus.org/**

In case any reader desires to have counter-recruiters come to high school campuses, they should be aware that Equal Access is Required by Law. As published on the website of the Central Committee for Conscientious Objectors-Military out of Our Schools Campaign: (**http://www.objector.org/moos/equal-access.html**)

"Federal district and appellate courts have repeatedly upheld Equal Access laws that enable students to get information on both sides of controversial issues.

In San Diego Committee v. Governing Board of Grossmont Union High School District [790 F.2d 1471 (9th Cir. 1986)] the 9th Circuit Court of Appeals ruled, 'The Board cannot allow the presentation of one side of an issue, but prohibit the presentation of the other side.... Here, the Board permitted mixed political and commercial speech advocating military service, but attempted to bar the same type of speech opposing such service. Accordingly, the Board violated the First Amendment.' (See also Searcey v. Crim [815 F.2d 1389 (11th Cir. 1987)].

As the 9th Circuit Court stated: 'It has long been recognized that the subject of military service is controversial.' When schools create a forum for the proponents of the military, they must, under the First and Fourteenth Amendments, provide equal access for those with opposing points of view. Simply put: if you allow military recruiters and/or military literature in your school, the law requires you to provide equal access to critics of the military. If you fail to provide equal access, your district is subject to expensive and controversial lawsuits."

Our young people are entitled to all available information that can have a profound impact on their lives, especially about events that could literally end their lives. They deserve our support and the right to their own information. If you find the information in this article useful, it is suggested that you make copies of it and/or the attached sample OPT-OUT form and give it to young people who may need it. The life that is saved may be a loved one's.

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August 9, 2005 public hearing

TJ Johnson's statement regarding the Olympia Nuclear-Free Zone

It was standing room only with overflow into the foyer. About 40 citizens actually spoke, and the end tally was 100% in favor of TJ's proposed ordinance. Following the public comments, TJ delivered the remarks below. Up until then the proceedings had been very decorous and muted, but when TJ finished, the crowd erupted into a prolonged standing ovation, the likes of which I've never seen at a city council meeting. (Of course, this was not reported in The Olympian*).—Carrie Lybecker*

TJ's statement:

Sixty years ago today, the United States dropped an atomic bomb on the City of Nagasaki, incinerating, vaporizing, poisoning and otherwise killing at least 80,000 men, women and children. Three days prior, the United States had dropped an atomic bomb on the City of Hiroshima, killing at least 100,000 people in similar fashion. The bombings were a heinous act for which this nation has yet to take full responsibility or issue an apology, and a clear violation of international law, according to the International Court of Justice. The bombings were also the opening gambit of an international nuclear arms race that has in the US, since 1945, diverted attention and funding from life-affirming and socially productive investments to the pursuit of technologies designed to indiscriminately kill humans.

Reflecting on the Hiroshima and Nagasaki bombings, General Omar Bradley observed that "the world has achieved brilliance without conscience. Ours is a world of nuclear giants and ethical infants." While we cannot undo the tragedies of Hiroshima and Nagasaki, nor erase the past 60 years squandered in attempts to find ever more creative ways of destroying life, we can, tonight, by adopting this ordinance, display the ethical maturity that Bradley found so lacking, and in so doing send a powerful message about the values of this community.

> In adopting this ordinance we can send a message to other communities here and abroad that there are democratically elected leaders in the United States who vigorously oppose the Bush administration's nuclear doctrine and who are working to create a world free of the evils of nuclear weapons.

Some may argue, indeed have, that local governments have no business involving themselves in national or international affairs. The job of local government, they say, is to fix the streets, pick up the trash, and put out fires. And they are right, that is the job of local government. But so are a host of other things. In today's increasingly interlinked and globalized world I believe that the argument that we should draw a line around the City of Olympia and ignore what happens on the other side of that line is naïve and undermines our stated goal of achieving a high quality of life for both today's Olympians and for future generations.

▸ **TJ's Statement** *continued pg 15*

▸ **Nuclear-Free Zone** *from page 1*

• The ordinance is beyond the scope of city government. As a city we should not devote resources to addressing international affairs.

• It distracts us from "the city's real work."

• It does not reflect broader community opinion.

• It was supported by "a group that was very well organized."

• The nuclear arms race is not accelerating: it is decelerating.

• The nuclear bombing of Nagasaki and Hiroshima were necessary to spare further loss of American lives and to end WWII.

• Nuclear arms are a necessary deterrent.

• The ordinance is divisive.

• And, many councilmembers questioned the city's vulnerability to litigation, particularly by federal government agencies.

Mayor Foutch (August 16) said that Lakefair has invited the USS *Olympia* to its 2006 festival, and that "I don't think the community can afford another divisive debate over the USS *Olympia*." What he didn't say is that he wrote a letter to the Navy the month before, on official city letterhead and without consulting the city council, inviting the vessel to our port. Apparently Mayor Foutch was not concerned that *his* invitation might be divisive, despite the well-known opposition by a significant portion of the community to a nuclear submarine in our port. He further remarked that the debate of 2004 embarrassed state officials and interfered with the city's relationships with state leaders.

Over weeks, councilmembers repeatedly asked the city attorney for information and a legal analysis of the city's potential vulnerability to litigation. The concern rested on a 1989 case in which the US government sued the City of Oakland regarding its nuclear-free zone ordinance. The judge ruled in favor of the government, and the city subsequently revised its ordinance. Yet every time the city attorney was asked for information, he didn't have specific answers and had not read the original court opinion.

According to TJ Johnson, more than 4,500 other communities in 23 countries have established nuclear-free zones, including Bainbridge Island and Bothell, Washington; Oakland and Berkeley, California; Baltimore and Takoma Park, Maryland; Boulder, Colorado; and Las Vegas, Nevada. I am unaware of federal lawsuits targeting NFZ ordinances in any city other than Oakland.

So on August 16, the council voted 5:2 to move the ordinance ahead for a second and final reading (i.e. approval) the following week. At this point, it was expected that debate and revisions had concluded, and that "City staff will make some minor editorial and grammatical changes before next week, but I do not believe there will be any substantive debate at the next meeting. Bottom line: One week from today residents of Olympia should wake up in a nuclear-free zone" (TJ Johnson).

That's not what happened.

The first ominous sign was that at 7 P.M., the mayor opened the August 23rd city council meeting by saying they'd already been in two executive sessions, one conferring with the city attorney on the nuclear-free zone ordinance.

Hours went by. Finally, after 10 P.M. the council turned to the ordinance. City Manager Steve Hall said, "You have in front of you the ordinance that has been revised due to legal questions we brought up last week." He reported that there had been questions of legal vulnerability, i.e. the city's vulnerability to law suits, especially brought by the federal government. As a consequence, the city attorney obtained more information from other cities, especially Oakland.

So, it was determined—no one said by whom or when, but presumably in the earlier executive session that was closed to the public—that new language would be added to the ordinance *exempting the federal government* from the requirements of Section 4 prohibiting the transport, production, storage etc of nuclear weapons and their components in or through the City of Olympia.

Further, the transportation of nuclear weapons and their components along the national highway system was exempted. Specifically mentioned were I-5, the 101, and possibly Plum St. I heard that all transportation to and from the port, and the port itself, would be exempt, as they are considered an extension of the federal highway system. TJ disagrees. His understanding is that the Port is not exempt and that there is "some question as to whether it applies to Plum St."

This new language that significantly altered the ordinance was added at the 11th hour and was not read at the council meeting. The ordinance was passed 5:2, Foutch and Mah dissenting.

So ultimately, this city council enacted a law, the text of which had not been made available to the public, based on information discussed behind closed doors. This raises a number of questions about city council process, the degree to which the citizens of Olympia can actually participate in democratic civic governance, and about the ordinance itself.

As Doug Mah pointed out, this ordinance exempts the only entity likely to transport nuclear materials through Olympia. What were councilmembers thinking? Who is the greatest purveyor of nuclear weaponry in the world today? Did they think there is any such thing as a real nuclear-free zone that doesn't challenge this government? Did they not understand that we know full well that establishing a nuclear-free zone explicitly challenges the government and other proliferators of nuclear weapons, and that we sought an ordinance anyway, understanding and accepting the consequences? What did they think we meant?

I want to know why the city council met in executive session. The information discussed in that session ostensibly included an analysis of city vulnerability to litigation by the federal government. TJ wrote after the fact that he had "reason to believe that we would have been sued by the feds relatively quickly." I want to know who threatened the city, and upon what grounds. Why is this information being withheld from the public? And why now? Mayor Foutch and councilmembers asked many times, publicly, over the past several weeks about potential liability. Why all of a sudden does discussion of this issue require secrecy? How is it possible that the city council could enact an ordinance whose text has not been made available to the public?

In the end, we have an ordinance that does not establish a nuclear-free zone in Olympia. It does require the city manager to submit within one year a proposal regarding city investments. It also provides citizens with the opportunity to submit highly credible evidence that contractors are engaged in the development etc of nuclear weapons and their components. The city has made clear that its staff does not have time to devote to this research, and so it will be left to community watchdog groups.

As the ordinance now stands, if Osama bin Laden drives a flatbed down 4th Ave with nuclear warheads piled in the back, he'll get fined $25 for the first infraction, provided 4th Ave isn't considered an extension of the national highway system.

[See **www.omjp.org/NuclearFree.html** *for primary documents, articles and other information. The Olympia Movement for Justice & Peace promotes economic and social justice and peace through dialogue, education, democratic participation and non-violent direct action.]*

Bangor Action

by Shannon Bushnell

The heart of nonviolence is the recognition that every person embodies the sacred, that within each of us, even the torturer and the bomb maker, is a holy potential for change and growth.
—Starhawk, **Truth or Dare: Encounters with Power, Authority and Mystery**

On August 8th, four Olympia peace activists were counted among the nineteen arrested for blocking the entrance to Naval Submarine Base Bangor in Kitsap County, Washington. The demonstration, organized by the Ground Zero Center for Nonviolent Action, commemorated the sixtieth anniversary of the U.S. bombing of Hiroshima and Nagasaki, Japan during WWII. This action represents the culmination of the week-long series "Beyond Hiroshima", which included the successful passage of the Nuclear-Free Zone ordinance by the City of Olympia, a three-hundred-mile Peace Walk, and various artistic and educational activities.

The four Olympians arrested were myself, Alice Zillah, Patty Imani, and Bryce Brown. We planned and coordinated our own arrests. The arrests of Alice and Bryce came two days after their completion of a three-hundred-mile Peace Walk from Hanford Nuclear Reservation to Bangor. The Peace Walk joined activist individuals and groups from across the state, including members of the Nipponzan Myohoji Buddhist Temple on Bainbridge Island, who also played a central role in the action at Bangor on August 8th.

In addition, four more Olympians participated in the peace vigil at Bangor and provided support for the arrestees. In all, approximately seventy-five activists from across the state joined the demonstration—the first to be held during Monday morning rush hour—expressing their support for nuclear disarmament. Interactions between the demonstrators and law enforcement were peaceful, and no injuries were reported. The mutually positive relationship between Ground Zero activists and local law enforcement is a key component of the civil disobedience we perform. Advance communication between activists and police is appropriate in the context and culture of the local area, reinforces the nonviolent philosophy and practice of Ground Zero activists and maintains ongoing opportunity to continue these actions, which are primarily educational and powerfully symbolic in nature.

The arrestees were booked at the Kitsap County Jail on suspicion of disorderly conduct and failure to disperse; all were later released. As of the date of this publication, none of the arrestees have been formally charged. The three most recent attempts by Kitsap County Prosecutors to obtain convictions on Ground Zero activists have proven unsuccessful. This informal tradition validates our legal right to grieve the U. S. government's failure to adhere to its own laws and to international treaties that call for the reduction and eventual elimination of nuclear weapons worldwide.

Bangor base, located just sixty miles north of Olympia, is the last active nuclear weapons depot on the West Coast. This confirmed site of weapons of mass destruction is capable of deploying 1,760 nuclear warheads on hair-trigger alert. The U.S. Department of Defense continues to increase both the number, and destructive capability of its nuclear weapons arsenal, attempting to justify this stockpile as a valid defense strategy. In fact, it is a strategy of offense and pre-emptive force. These bombs are designed to be first-strike weapons, which can destroy entire cities and civilian populations on short notice. Bangor base was recently renovated to accommodate an "upgrade" to the larger, more accurate Trident D-5 missile system. Each of the 24 D-5 missiles on a Trident submarine can carry eight 455-kiloton warheads, about thirty times the explosive force present in the Hiroshima bomb. Each Trident missile costs $40.9 million, representing money stolen from the American people that would be better spent on vital human and environmental services.

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The Trident system also holds the local economy hostage. Since the Navy offers one of the few family-wage jobs in the area, it is guaranteed a willing workforce. The day before the action, Ground Zero hosted the renowned activist Bruce Gagnon, who spoke eloquently on the interrelatedness of jobs and peace. He inspired us to envision a future in which all people will have socially and environmentally responsible employment. An economy based on peace will ensure everyone a right to livelihood and can become a basis for building the infrastructure we really need, such as renewable energy systems and expanded public transportation options.

My own father is employed as a mechanical engineer at Puget Sound Naval Shipyard, located twenty miles south of Bangor, and home to several aircraft-carrier ships. I lived the first twenty years of my life in Bremerton, an experience that shaped me into a peace activist. On the day of the action, as I walked with others in procession to the gates of Bangor, a spontaneous memory entered my mind. I recalled the image of myself as a teenager, situated in my parents' middle-class home on a Saturday, doing some housework. My job was to iron my father's plaid, short-sleeved work shirts for the coming week. On Monday morning, he would clip his shipyard badge to the front pocket of the shirt, and prepare for a day designing refrigeration components for the aircraft carriers. The workday always ended with a low, resounding whistle from the shipyard airhorn.

In my imagination, as I processed towards the demonstration site that day, I heard the airhorn again. This time I perceived that instead of signalling the end of a single workday, the airhorn, sounded metaphorically by peace activists around the globe, signaled the coming end of the nuclear age. As I quietly chant the names of the Goddess (Isis, Astarte, Diana, Hecate, Demeter, Kali, Inanna!) we arrived at the Bangor Gate. I stood in prayer, calling up the wild power of the molten core of the earth, red. Same color dress I wore ten years before, when I attended my high school prom at the Officer's Club on base. Red in honor of those killed. Red for robust life renewing itself in a never-ending cycle. Red life rising to the sky, dissolving all the weapons in its wake, forming a mushroom-shaped cloud of love and peace that envelopes the entire globe, which we call home.

For info: **www.gzcenter.org**

PHOTO BY SCOTT YOOS

Olympians Alice Zillah, Shannon Bushnell and Patty Imani formed a prayer circle in the center of the road, stopping traffic into the Base for a time.

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Imperialism in Haiti

by tyler rougeau

In the midst of violent political repression and state-sanctioned terrorism, the interim government in Haiti has an opportunity to push through an economic agenda.

In ensuring that Haiti steer clear of implementing popular reforms aimed at providing for the population's needs, the US, along with other rich nations, has simultaneously tied the hands of progressive administrations through debt bondage and funded right-wing paramilitary and business organizations in Haiti. Surely Haiti is another example of the financial and military manipulation needed to maintain the high levels of inequality and poverty created by global capitalism. True democratic governance threatens minority privilege and therefore US interests. Acting out of its own self-interest, the "international community" is now working to frame Haiti's end-of-the-year elections within a context of state-sanctioned terrorism and illegitimate debt.

Soon after President Jean Bertrand Aristide's ousting in the February 2004 coup d'etat, the appointed Haitian government adopted the Interim Cooperation Framework (ICF) to solicit international funds from rich nations and their international financial institutions. In mid-2004 international donors pledged 1.1 billion dollars to Haiti, which has an outstanding debt of approximately 1.2 billion dollars. Much of the aid pledged to Haiti are loans and will add to the already heavy debt burden that the most impoverished country in the hemisphere is strangled with. Moreover, at least 40 per cent of Haiti's $1.2 billion debt is odious debt held over from the Duvalier dictatorship.

In January of this year the World Bank reportedly released $73 million in loans to Haiti after the country paid the Bank $52.3 million in debt service, according to a January 6 Reuters piece. This money, loaned to the interim government, is earmarked mostly for "economic governance," which is likely to mean the privatization of state-owned industries and further suppression of wages in favor of corporate profit. To be sure, one of the first consequences of the recent coup, reported the National Lawyers Guild, was the elimination of popular organizations, which provided basic, necessary services.

Representing the interests of the United States, known Aristide opponent and then-US Assistant Secretary of State for Western Hemisphere Affairs, Roger F. Noriega, remarked on April 14, 2004 to the American Enterprise Institute that Aristide's exile was an opportunity for the US to help the country "with restructuring and privatization of some public sector enterprises through a transparent process."

Likewise, World Bank Spokesperson Caroline Anstey characterized the undemocratic interim government in Haiti as providing a ''two-year window of opportunity to put in place some real social, political and economic reform'' in Haiti, as quoted by Jim Lobe's July 21, 2004 piece for the International Press Service (IPS).

> In a report issued in March 2005 by the Harvard Law School Advocates for Human Rights, MINUSTAH [United Nations Stabilization Mission in Haiti] is criticized for contributing to an atmosphere of state-sanctioned terrorism.

"Economic reform" has been an agenda pushed on Haiti by powers in Washington since the grassroots Lavalas movement of Jean Bertrand Aristide began dominating Haiti's politics in the post-Duvalier years. After democratically elected President Aristide was ousted in a 1991 military coup, the US backed the anti-Lavalas paramilitary group Front for the Advancement of Progress of the Haitian People (FRAPH), which terrorized the country in notable CIA-backed death-squad fashion. The Clinton administration subsequently reinstalled Aristide as president in 1994, but only after he agreed to "economic reform" of the neo-liberal persuasion. Despite the majority of Haitians being against the privatization plans, neo-liberal reforms were subsequently pushed on Haiti in 1996, including the suppression of wages, privatization of state-owned industries, and lowering of tariffs. As a result of lowered tariffs, foodstuffs from US corporations such as Erly Rice were dumped on Haiti, undermining the country's own livestock and agriculture sectors, on which the majority of Haitians depend for subsistence.

Armed UN soldier in Haiti

Haiti generates corporate profits not only as a market for subsidized US agriculture. In January 1996 the National Labor Committee released a report detailing Haitian textile sweatshops paying less than the inadequate minimum wage of 36 gourdes, or $2.40, per day. The report, entitled "The US in Haiti", documents several US retailers seeking profits through the exploitation of Haitian workers, implicating Disney, Wal-Mart, Sears, J.C. Penney, "Wrangler" and "Lee" jeans, and Hanes apparel.

> In a blatantly illegal arrest, Jean-Juste was seized at a funeral ceremony with no warrant issued or crime witnessed. The popular priest's persecution was facilitated with the aid of UN "peacekeepers"…

Paired with this form of international debt peonage, the International Republican Institute (IRI) funneled millions of US tax dollars through the US Agency for International Development (USAID) to elite business interests in Haiti, as reported by Max Blumental on July 14, 2004 for Salon.com. The results of these covert "party building" operations were the Democratic Convergence (DC) and sweatshop owner Andre Apaid's Group of 184 Civil Society Organizations (G-184). This so-called "civilian opposition", which also receives funding from the EU, collaborated with the paramilitary elements in Haiti to overthrow Aristide after he was reelected in internationally recognized free and fair presidential elections in 2000 with sixty per cent voter turnout, according to the Organization of American States (OAS).

Aristide came under pressure during his second term when the international community, led by the United States, suspended much needed aid to the country, citing IRI-backed DC claims of electoral irregularities in the 2000 municipal elections. With the politically motivated suspension of aid, Haiti's population suffered while international lenders continued to accept payment from the country.

The situation went from bad to worse when former US-backed death squad forces crossed over from neighboring Dominican Republic in February 2004. The "rebel forces" seized Haitian territory and began a campaign of terror against Lavalas supporters throughout the country. Aristide, who had disbanded the Haitian Armed Forces (FAd'H) in 1995, was mortally threatened by paramilitary forces and pressured into exile by the "civilian opposition" and the US government.

Since then, the continued violence in the country has been largely blamed on armed thugs profiting on kidnapping ransoms whose strongholds are well-known Lavalas-supporting neighborhoods such as Cite Soleil. One such thug was recently targeted and killed in a United Nations operation in the Port-au-Prince neighborhood on July 6 this year. "Dozens of civilians," according to the *Washington Post* (August 5) died as a result of the United Nations Stabilization Mission in Haiti (MINUSTAH) operation.

Such "pro-Aristide gangs" are frequently invoked to justify both political repression in poor Lavalas strongholds and extrajudical executions carried out by the Haitian National Police. But eyewitness reports of these "security operations" don't praise the enhanced

UN armored vehicle on patrol in Port au Prince

▸ **Imperialism in Haiti** *continued pg 14*

▸ **Imperialism in Haiti** *from page 13*

security situation. Rather, they testify to the operations' gross disregard for the loss of innocent life.

Over a year into the operation, MINUSTAH has been unable or unwilling to effectively carry out its mandate, which includes protecting the population. In a report issued in March 2005 by the Harvard Law School Advocates for Human Rights, MINUSTAH is criticized for contributing to an atmosphere of state-sanctioned terrorism. According to the report, UN forces in Haiti have been unwilling to provide protection to civilians from attack in hospitals. As a

result, many injured people do not seek medical attention for fear of further harm or execution at the hands of police forces. In clear violation of its purported mandate, the report concludes, "MINUSTAH has not effectively investigated or reported human rights abuses; nor has it protected human rights advocates. Charged to train and reform the Haitian National Police, MINUSTAH has instead offered unquestioning support to police operations that have resulted in warrantless arrests and detentions, unintended civilian casualties and deliberate extrajudicial killings."

Despite the limited public pressure put on MINUSTAH for the July 6 massacre, another wave of state-inflicted violence erupted when the Haitian National Police used lethal force in Haiti's Solino neighborhood. According to the Haiti Action Committee's August 10 alert, the National Police handed out machetes to death-squad elements working with the police who then dismembered Lavalas supporters, particularly young women.

The words of one community member, quoted from the above source, put the scene in context, "They are trying to dismantle the grassroots leadership of Lavalas by killing them—in one neighborhood after another. This is all in preparation for the sham elections they have cooked up for this fall to try and legitimize the February 29, 2004 coup de tat and the coup regime. By 'they' I mean the death-squad government and their US, UN, French and Canadian backers."

The Fanmi Lavalas Party has publicly rejected participating in the upcoming end-of-year elections, citing the continuing political violence directed at Lavalas supporters. Party leaders, including the former Prime Minister Yvon Neptune, and community leaders, such as Fr. Gernard Jean-Juste and Annette "So Anne" Auguste, have become political prisoners detained without due process. In a blatantly illegal arrest, Jean-Juste was seized at a funeral ceremony with no warrant issued or crime witnessed. The popular priest's persecution was facilitated with the aid of UN "peacekeepers" who transported him from the funeral to the custody of the Haitian National Police. In a letter released by his lawyer Bill Quigley, Jean-Juste expressed hope, gratitude, and solidarity with "those who stand all over the world for the rights of everyone whatever color, whatever creed, whatever nationality. … Personally, regardless of all the hardship, I am still joining my voice to the voices of all democracy lovers to demand the return of constitutional order in Haiti, the physical return of our elected president Aristide, release of all political prisoners, respect of all human rights, and if that is done then real elections can happen."

In contrast, paramilitary leader Louis-Jodel Chamblain, who was not arbitrarily arrested but surrendered after the recent coup, was released from prison earlier this month. Chamblain is accused of participating in the murder and torture of hundreds if not thousands of people during the 1991-1994 reign of FRAPH in which he served as second in command. But he escaped justice despite incriminating evidence, including Central Intelligence Agency (CIA) documents released to the Center for Constitutional Rights, revealing that Chamblain was known to be involved in "plans to kill [Haitian Justice Minister Guy] Malary." Moreover, Chamblain's prosecutors failed to provide evidence or call more than a single witness in the "trial", which lasted less than 14 straight hours. Both Amnesty International and out-going US Ambassador to Haiti James Foley criticized the blatant mockery of justice displayed in Chamblain's acquittal and release by the coup regime.

The Cold War confrontation between the United States and Soviet Union may be over and done, but Cuba's example of alternative development is still a threat to the US Empire. Elite interests in the United States fear Cuba's example with good reason, too. Subjected to an internationally condemned US trade embargo, Cuba's population has nonetheless achieved a significantly higher level of human development than those Latin American and Caribbean nations subjected to the full-blown developmental package of free-trade agreements and structural adjustment loans. According to the United Nations, Cuba's poverty, literacy, child mortality, and improved sanitation rates are staggeringly better than its neighbors such as Haiti.

One can only wonder whether people here in the US will demand accountability from the policymakers responsible for supporting such atrocities. Some Representatives have challenged the Bush administration on its role in overthrowing Aristide, notably members of the Congressional Black Caucus. These efforts should be supported and commended, since neither justice nor peace will not be achieved with an orchestrated election and business as usual.

In this so-called War on Terrorism, those resisting occupation have been declared "enemy combatants" undeserving of humane treatment assured by the Geneva Conventions. At the same time, no mechanisms exist for meaningful democratic participation by occupied populations, or if they do exist they are eliminated as in Haiti, making armed resistance inevitable. Thus Haiti is on the verge of being labeled a failed state not because of its own inept backwardness, but because of the outside, forceful imposition of plutocracy. This is evidenced by the imposition of further debt through the ICF, which will serve to curtail any potential social programs a future candidate may promise the Haitian electorate. Haiti shows everyone willing to see, that the US version of democracy means the freedom to choose between similar corporate-friendly candidates—not the grassroots empowerment of all citizens.

Special thanks to Derek Mitchell at **cooperativeresearch.org** *and all those working with* **haitiaction.net**

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▸ **TJ's Statement** *from page 11*

I believe that there are at least six legitimate reasons for local governments, particularly this local government, to take concrete actions towards achieving a world free of what Japanese novelist and Nobel Prize winner Kenzabuoro Oe calls "these awesome weapons that reign over our age like raving mad gods."

First, local governments are compelled to act due to the 60 year failure of national and international institutions to meaningfully address the problem. Simply put, national and international efforts to eliminate nuclear weapons have been ineffective, and are currently on the verge of collapse, a precarious position brought on in large part by a combination of international terrorists and the aggressive pro-nuclear posture of the Bush administration, with its utter disregard for international cooperation and the rule of law. Its time for local communities and local governments to step forward and lead the way to a nuclear-free future.

Second, it is appropriate for cities to take action to eliminate nuclear weapons because cities have the most to lose. As centers of culture, commerce and population, cities are the most likely target for the use of nuclear weapons, either by terrorists or nuclear states. As both a state Capitol and Port City, Olympia is especially vulnerable – and I might add the recent reintroduction of military shipments through the port of Olympia has increased this risk.

Third, the dollars wasted on nuclear weapons rob cities of precious resources needed to deal with a host of growing social and environmental problems. The United States has wasted nearly $6 trillion on nuclear weapons since 1945. Over the past few years funding for the US nuclear weapons program has steadily increased, with the full cost now approaching, by some estimates, nearly $60 billion per year. It is important that we clearly understand that there is a connection between spending on nuclear weapons and the lack of resources available for socially productive and life enhancing investments. President Eisenhower understood this connection well when he stated that "Every gun that is made, every warship launched, every rocket fired signifies, in the final sense, a theft from those who hunger and are not fed, those who are cold and are not clothed."

Fourth, this City Council has adopted a goal of aligning our values with our actions in order to put sustainability into action to improve the quality of life in our community and do our part to save the planet. Nothing is more contrary to the long-term sustainability of our community than the fact that there are enough nuclear weapons on the planet today to, according to Dr. Helen Caldicott, kill every man, woman and child on the planet 32 times. The City of Olympia is recognized as a pioneer in the area of community sustainability – reducing the use of toxics in City operations, reducing GHG emissions, developing a sustainable economy chapter of our comprehensive plan, and investing in parks, sidewalks, and urban forestry. Yet what good does it do to take these important local actions for sustainability if we are always 15 minutes away from the end of civilization as we know it?

Fifth, in adopting this ordinance we will send a clear message to other communities and other nations that not everyone in this country agrees with the Bush administration's reckless and arrogant policy of intimidation and violence. As a member of the Mayors for Peace delegation to the Nuclear Non-proliferation treaty conference in May, I was appalled at the mixture of thinly veiled tolerance and outright contempt with which the United States approached the conference, and I found myself frequently surrounded by my international colleagues who pressed me to understand whether the US position had widespread support, since alternative perspectives are rarely heard in the corporate-dominated US media. In adopting this ordinance we can send a message to other communities here and abroad that there are democratically elected leaders in the United States who vigorously oppose the Bush administration's nuclear doctrine and who are working to create a world free of the evils of nuclear weapons.

Sixth, one of the roles of local governments is to be responsive to the community we serve. If something is important to members of the community, it is a legitimate concern of local government. Tonight and over the past few weeks members of our community have clearly indicated that this issue is important to them; as such, it is a legitimate issue for action by this Council. This is the essence of the democratic form of government.

Tonight, through our actions, we have the opportunity to join with over 4,500 other communities in 23 countries that have established nuclear-free zones, including Bainbridge Island and Bothell, Washington, Oakland and Berkeley, California, Baltimore and Takoma Park, Maryland, Boulder, Colorado, Las Vegas, Nevada, Lane County Oregon, The Big Island of Hawaii, New Zealand, all of South America, and as of this fall five Central Asian nations.

On the eve of this 60th anniversary of the last time nuclear weapons were deliberately used as a weapon of war on a civilian population, let us do what we can as the elected representatives in this city to act consistently with the strong majority of world opinion – including 66% of Americans and, I believe, a majority of Olympians – who favor the total elimination of all nuclear weapons. Let us act to move Beyond Hiroshima, Beyond Nagasaki, and in the words of Adalai Stevenson, let us act to stop cursing the darkness and start lighting candles to find our way out.

I ask my colleagues to lay aside your technical, legal, and economic reservations, and listen to your humanity.

I urge your unanimous support for the motion.

Announcements (cont. from pg 1)

Olympia to Ft Lewis March for Peace

Friday, September 23rd!

Call for an End to the U.S. War on Iraq!

Join the **Olympia Movement for Justice and Peace** (OMJP) and other groups in a march beginning in Olympia and ending with a rally in Ft. Lewis. This 18 mile walk is part of the national mobilization calling for the withdrawal of the U.S. from Iraq. Our walk to Ft. Lewis aims to highlight both the suffering of the Iraqi people and U.S. troops and their families as a result of this illegal and immoral war. There will be antiwar activities in Olympia, Seattle, Washington, D.C. and throughout the country that weekend. We will **rally at 8:00 am., Friday, September 23rd at Sylvester Park** in downtown Olympia and then walk to Ft. Lewis 100 strong where we will be met by marchers from Tacoma. In a spirit of non-confrontation and concern for U.S. soldiers, a **rally will be held outside the main gate of Ft. Lewis at 6:00 pm**. We need your involvement. To sign up as a marcher, to find out more about this peace march and to get involved in organizing and supporting it, call **Nikki Miller** at **273- 9800** or email her at **nikki_miller@yahoo.com**.

Empowering Parents As Advocates

Tuesday, September 27th

8:30—12:30 Tyee Center, 5757 Littlerock Road

Training and Resource Fair, sponsored by Partners For Children, Youth and Families, includes information from multiple community resources to assist parents in advocating for themselves and their children in the arenas of education, medical, state and the legal system.

WROC is on the panel! For more information call **Laura Hurtado-Webb** at **786-8754 x 114** or **Linda Clark** at **273-9175**.

Contact **WROC** at 701 Franklin Street SE, Olympia WA 98501
360-**352-9716** or toll free at 866-343-9716
wrocoly@wroc.org • **www.wroc.org**

Radical Tease Fashion Show: Participants Needed

Designers, runway models and general production help wanted.

Radical Tease is a fashion show featuring local recycle designers... those that repurpose old clothes into new fashions.

It's happening **Saturday, October 8th** in downtown Olympia.

The subject matter: local non-profits. **The style:** serious about the clothes, but campy in the show. We're matching up designers to various grass roots organizations (GRuB, Free School, Food Not Bombs, Oly Workers Association and EGYHOP are a few of the confirmed charities). Each designer will make a few items that feature the non-profit's logo. The clothing will be auctioned after the fashion show to raise money for each cause.

Contact **peter@cre8tives.org**, visit **www.cre8tives,org/radical** or call **352-7062**.

Free Sleeping Lawn Signs Available for City of Olympia Water Customers

The City of Olympia provides free "This lawn's isn't dead, it's just sleeping" signs for water customers who choose to let their lawns go dormant. A dormant lawn saves water and money, and discourages crane fly larvae.

Please call **Tikva Breuer** at (360) **753-8793** to request a **Sleeping Lawn Sign**.

City Offers Free Rain Gauges and Sensors

The City of Olympia offers **free rain gauges** to help residents and businesses measure how much water their lawns are getting.

Additionally, **free rain sensors** are available to water customers who have automatic sprinkler systems. Rain sensors save water by electrically deactivating irrigation systems when it rains.

Both of these devices are available, free of charge, to City of Olympia water customers only.

To request a free rain gauge or free rain sensor, call the City of Olympia **Water Conservation Program** at (360) **753-4444 ext. 8390**. Quantities are limited.

TRUTH ABOUT POWER IS SPOKEN HERE
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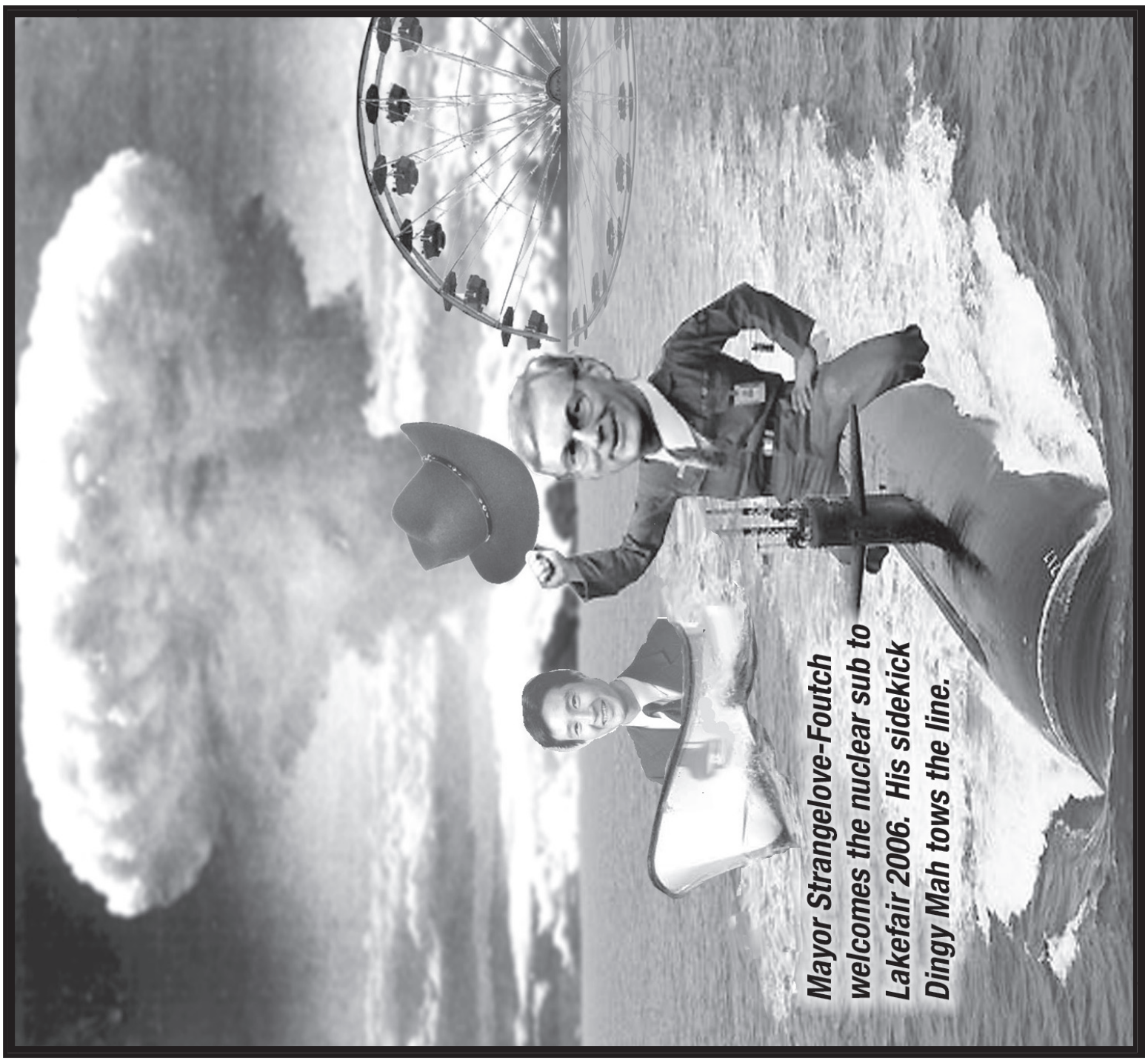
FREE
Volume 16, No. 5

WORKS IN PROGRESS



Mayor Strangelove-Foutch welcomes the nuclear sub to Lakefair 2006. His sidekick Dingy Mah tows the line.

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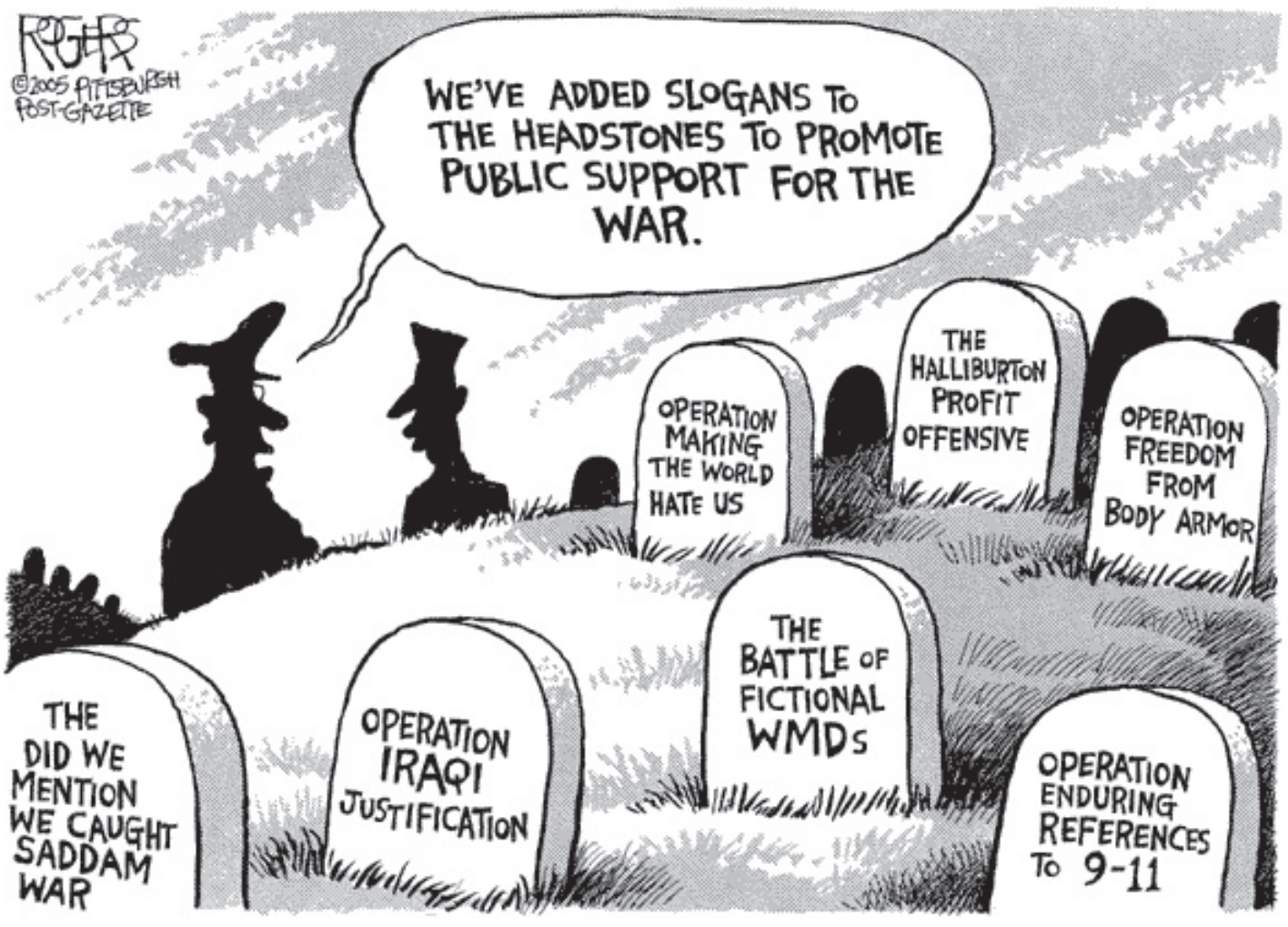
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WE'VE ADDED SLOGANS TO THE HEADSTONES TO PROMOTE PUBLIC SUPPORT FOR THE WAR.
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